


TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS		X		
5	DDI		X		
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC	X			
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OCA		X		
14	D/PAO				
15	D/PERS				
16	D/Ex Staff				
17	NIO/GPF		X		
18	D/SOVA/DI		X		
19	NIO/SP		X		
20					
21			X		
22					
SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks

STAT

Executive Secretary

21 Aug '87

Date

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Executive Registry

87-4117X



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

18 August 1987

The Honorable William H. Webster  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill,

Bob Herres and I enjoyed the opportunity to have lunch with you and Bob Gates some weeks ago. Given the developments in town, it was a most timely and useful session.

One issue you raised involved the CIA role in the preparation of the military net assessment called for in the Goldwater-Nichols bill and NSDD-219. As you know, the recent 1987 Military Net Assessment was developed by my staff with participation by DIA; however, there was only informal coordination with CIA. The 1987 Military Net Assessment would certainly have been enhanced by input from the entire intelligence community. A recent legislative initiative will likely formalize this relationship. Senator Nunn apparently felt that more involvement in net assessment by intelligence professionals was a prerequisite for the overall assessment of national military strategy. Accordingly, he amended the FY 88-89 intelligence authorization bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the DCI to "develop a plan for the conduct of net assessment by the intelligence community." He further offered an alternative:

"Given the considerable resources associated with complex net assessments, the conduct of joint net assessments by DOD and the intelligence community are acceptable."

I believe this alternative would be the most beneficial to the intelligence community as well as the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It would also take advantage of the considerable expertise and resources of both.



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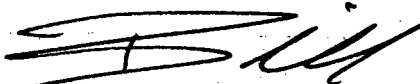
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While the details of the authorization bill are yet to be finalized, my sensing is that the Nunn Amendment is a step in the right direction. We would certainly have more confidence in the conclusions reached in the net assessment if the intelligence community were more formally involved in the process.

I would be willing to amplify these thoughts further, if you wish. Though legislative developments may preempt much of our thinking in this area, there should still be room for a healthy give and take.

Again, many thanks for the luncheon, and best wishes in your important new responsibilities.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bill', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

WILLIAM J. CROWE, JR.  
Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff